

## **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE No. 2017-07**

### **AN ORDINANCE PROMOTING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE/ FARMING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BONGABONG AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Sponsor: HON. NIÑO G. LIWANAG

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Bayan of Bongabong in session duly assembled that:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This ordinance shall be known as “Organic Agriculture/ Farming Ordinance of Bongabong”.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. The Municipality of Bongabong envisions itself to be the center for organic farming in the province. Relative to this, the municipality adheres to the policy of the State to promote, develop, enhance and further implement the practice of Organic Agriculture in the Philippines that will cumulatively condition and enrich the fertility of the soil increase farm productivity, reduce pollution and destruction of environment, and protect the health of its farmers, consumers and general public.

SECTION 3. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to highlight the vision of the Municipality of Bongabong as the Center of Organic Farming of Oriental Mindoro. Specifically, this ordinance intends to the develop and promote organic agriculture and shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Policy formulation on regulation, registration, accreditation, certification and labeling on organic agriculture;
- (b) Research, development and extension of appropriate, sustainable environment and gender-friendly organic agriculture;
- (c) Promotion and encouragement of the establishment of facilities, equipment and processing plants that would accelerate the production and commercialization of organic fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and other commercialization of organic fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and other appropriate farm inputs; and
- (d) Implementation of organic agricultural programs, projects and activities, including the provision and delivery of support services with focus on the farmers and other stakeholders.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms are defined operationally:

Organic- refers to the particular farming and processing system, described in the standards and not in the classical chemical sense. The term "organic" is synonymous in other languages to "biological" or "ecological".

Organic Agriculture/farming- includes all Agricultural systems that promote the ecologically sound, socially acceptable, economically viable and technically feasible production of food and fishery.

Organic Agriculture Zones – protected areas identified by the municipality where organic farming is implemented.

**SECTION 5. MUNICIPAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:** Pursuant to Section 14, paragraph 2 of Republic Act 10068, the local chief executive is tasked to form the committee through appropriate executive order.

**SECTION 6. ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ZONES.** For the effective implementation of this ordinance, the Sangguniang Bayan, through the recommendation of the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist shall pass a resolution identifying agriculture zones that will be protected from encroachment and contamination using chemical based farm inputs including contamination of genetically engineered crops and other similar activities.

**SECTION 7. ORGANIC CENTER.** – The municipality, through the office of Municipal Agriculturist, shall establish, recognize and support Organic Centers including those initiated by the private sector that will promote, market, and develop organic agriculture.

**SECTION 8. SUPPORT SERVICES AND INCENTIVES.** The Municipality of Bongabong shall ensure support to organic farmers who wish to engage in organic agriculture such as training, production, marketing and branding to develop an agriculture product that will ensure a market niche, including the practice of fair trade. Further, incentives shall be provided by the appropriate provisions of the Investment and Incentive Code.

**SECTION 9. FUNDING SOURCE.** - In order to realize the purposes of this ordinance, the municipal government shall integrate the program in the Annual Investment Plan and allocate fund in the Annual Budget of the municipality.

**SECTION 10. ORGANIC FARMING DAY.** For the purpose of promoting the organic agriculture/farming, an Organic Agriculture/ Farming Day shall be held every December 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

**SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** - If for any reason, any part of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional, other parts which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE.** All ordinances, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. - This Ordinance shall take effect 15 days after its posting in at least two conspicuous places in the municipality.

I hereby certify to the truth of the foregoing.

**Atty. EDUARDO M. MAGSINO, REB, EnP**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

**RICHARD S. CANDELARIO**  
Vice-Mayor  
Presiding Officer

Approved:

**ELEGIO A. MALALUAN, O.D.**  
Municipal Mayor  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_